

United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY Conservation Division P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

May 7, 1979

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by:

Memorandum

Area Mining Supervisor, SRMA

From:

Mining Engineer, SRMA

Subject: Field Inspection of open-pit mining operations at the Jackpile-Paguate Mine, The Anaconda Company, Laguna Leases 1 and 4, T 10 and 11 N, R 5W, Laguna

Indian Reservation, Valencia County, New Mexico

April 4, 1978, the writer inspected the subject mining operations in the company of Mr. Erwin Green, Manager of Engineering Services for Anaconda. The purpose of the inspection was the examination of the active mining areas. The last such inspection was conducted October 27, 1978.

Mining operations in the Jackpile Pit were examined first. Stripping by both Anaconda and Hamilton Construction, a private contractor, was almost complete in the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 pushbacks. The overburden from these areas was being placed on the North Dump and backfilled into the completed NJ-2 and NJ-5 pushbacks. Upon completion of stripping, Anaconda will commence ore zone mining in the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 areas, and the stripping operations will be moved to the NJ-32 pushback to the northeast. Both Anaconda and Hamilton will strip the NJ-32 and NJ-37 pushbacks. Ore zone mining by Anaconda was nearing completion in the NJ-24, NJ-28 and NJ-28 North pushbacks, and these operations will be transferred to the NJ-17 and 23 and NJ-27 areas when that stripping is finished. Mining waste from the NJ-24, NJ-28 and NJ-28 North pushbacks was being backfilled into the mined out SJ-3 and SJ-12 areas.

At the time of this inspection, five ore stockpiles were active in the Jackpile Pit. Protore (0.02-0.04% U308) was being placed on stockpile J-1A, and low grade material (0.05-0.06% U30g) was being stored at the J-17E stockpile. Shipments from J-17E should begin in the later part of 1979. Stockpiles J-9, J-10 and J-11 were the active



high grade ore stockpiles and were being shipped from regularly.

In the Paguate Pit, ore zone mining in the SP-9 pushback was completed in March, and the pit bottom was being drilled for remnant ore zones. Stripping was underway in the SP-16 pushback to the southeast, and the overburden from this area was being backfilled into the SP-9 pushback. The SP-20 pushback was 95% complete with the recovery of remnant ore zones in the pit bottom to be finished in the near future. Mining waste from the SP-20 area was being used for backfill in both the SP-20 and SP-9 pushbacks. Drilling was being conducted in the North Paguate Pit with both stripping and ore zone mining scheduled for May-June 1979. These operations will consist of recovering ore remnants in the pit bottom and small ore zones in the NP-33, NP-34 and NP-36 pushbacks.

Seven ore stockpiles were active in the Paguate Pit at the time of this inspection. Protore was being placed on stockpile SP-1B, and low grade ore was being stored on the large SP-2C stockpile. Stockpiles SP-3C, SP-6 and SP-9 were the active shipping stockpiles with SP-3C providing the majority of the material shipped. Underground ore from the P-10 Mine was being stored in shipping stockpiles U-5 and U-25 which were located between open-pit stockpiles SP-3C and SP-1C.

During calendar year 1978, the open-pit mining operations by both Anaconda and Hamilton Construction produced a total of 35,113,972 tons of overburden, ore, protore and mining waste. Categorized, monthly open-pit production is shown on the attached excavation report, and it should be pointed out that Hamilton averaged more than 1.5 million tons of overburden per month. January 1979 production was 2,521,140 tons of overburden, 84,287 tons of protore at 0.03% U308, 73,371 tons of ore at 0.09% U308, and 953,388 tons of mining waste (3,632,186 tons of material total). February 1979 production increased to 2,909,007 tons of overburden, 82,467 tons of protore (0.03% U308), 102,207 tons of ore (0.10% U308) and 588,281 tons of mining waste (3,681,962 tons total). Categorized production for March 1979 had not yet been compiled, but ore production for that month decreased to 91,992 tons at 0.11% U308.

During the inspection, Mr. Green pointed out the reclamation underway near the Jackpile Pit where scrapers and bulldozers were slope

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dressing waste dumps X and Y with Tres Hermanos material. Mr. Green also noted that there would be two more sessions of waste dumping on the south side of Gavilan Mesa. Material from pushbacks NJ-37 and NJ-45 would slightly increase the size of this dump and would also be used for slope dressing.

Dale C. Jones
Mining Engineer

cc: Superintendent, Southern Pueblos Agency, BIA Governor, Pueblo of Laguna Conservation Manager, Central Region, Denver Files

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C	0.			· .	CONTRACTOR							
	POUNDS	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL		14	TOTAL TONNAGE OPEN PIT		
	93,305	351,742	.(^143,037	790,675	135,246	1,150,997	1,286,243	1	٠	2,076,918		

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MONTH	O40	GRADE	POUNDS	.030 — .039 PROTORE TO STOCKPILE	GRADE	POUNDS	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE	MINING WASTE	STRIPPING	TOTAL TONNAGE		TOTAL TONNAGE OPEN PIT
JANUARY	162,623	0.07046	553165	133,273	0.0350	93,305	351,742	.(*143,037	790,675	135,246	1,150,997	1,286,243	~	2,076,918
											1	ļ		
FEBRUARY	249,123	0.0786	391,961	148,549	0.0356	105,767	. 161,597	£ 387,099	946,368	480,940	1,424,409		H	2,851,717
YEAR TO DATE	411,746	0.0754	621,123	281,822	0,0353	199,072	513,339	. 530,136	1,737,043	616,186	2,575,406	3,191,592		4,928,635
			~- 7 A. T.	Line programs to	27572					£:	75.529	L	1	-2,668,735
MARCH	281,100	0.2300	1,292,750	9,997	0.0297	5,953	138,836	2 399,418	823,351		1,839,384	1,839,384 5,030,976		7,597,370
YEAR TO DATE	692,846	0.1381	1,913,873	291,819	0.0351	205,025	652,175	929,554	2,566,394	616,186	4,414,790	3,030,376	1	11,001,010
APRIL	244 570	0.0840	410,608	107070		100007	32,647	'.\c^ 917.903	1 700 711	90.938	2,352,821	2.443.759		3,806,070
YEAR TO DATE	244,529 937,375	0.1240	2,324,481		0.0327	109,207 314,232	684,822	1,847,457	1, 362,311 3,928,705	707,124		7,474,735		11,403,440
TEAR TO DATE	331,373	0.12.40	2,027,401	459,051	0.0342	314,232	004,022		3,320,703	101,124		377 1,100		
MAY	24,219	0.0578	27,993.	36,501	0.0298	21,757	271,168	.70 55,739	387,627	231,150	440,330	671,480		1,059,107
YEAR TO DATE	7961,594		2,352,474	495,552		335,989	955,990	1,903,196	4,316,332	938,274	7,207,941	8,146,215		12,462,547
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JUNE	24,932	0,0700	35,092	107,870 -	0.0280	61,518	757,722	J 316,142	1,206,666	656,351	1,315,053	1,971,404		3,178,070
YEAR TO DATE	986,526		2,387,566	603,422		397,507	1,713,712	2,219,330	5,522,998	1,594,625	8,522,994	10,117,619		15, 640, 617
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JULY	46,989	0.1422	133,626	139,037	0.0280	77,948	871,359	0 -	1,057,385	764,747		1,966,252		3,023,637
YEAR TO DATE	- 1,033,515	0.1220	2,521,192	742,459	0.0320	475,455	2,585,071	2,219,338	6,580,383	2,359,372	9,724,499	12,083,871		18,664,254
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AUGUST	€0,546	0.0991	120,008	166,137	0.0273	599,06	856,998	-0-	1,083,681	599,102	L675,902	2,275,004	-	3,358,685
YEAR TO DATE	1,001,061	0.1207	2,641,200	908,596	0.0312	566,118	3,442,069	2,219,338	7,664,064	2,958,474	11,400,401	14,358,875		22,022,939
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• SEPTEMBER	129,914	0,1292	335,704	99,507		57,959	72,243	-0-	951,664	136,344	2,521,201	2,657,545	-	-3,609,209
YEAR TO DATE	1,223,975	0.1216	2,976,904	1,008,103	0.0310	624,077	4,164,312	2,219,338	8,615,728	3,094,818	13,921,602	17,016,420		25, 632, 148
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OCTOBER	205,368	0.1095		132,354	0.0287	75,980	434,498	-0-	772,220	-0-	2,909,874			3,682,094
YEAR TO DATE	1,429,343	0.1199	3,426,545	1,140,457	0 0307	700,057	4,598,810	2,219,338	9,387,948	5,094,818	16,831,476	19,926,294	-	29, 314,242
		0.000	100050		0.0274	50,591	447,526	- 60 az asz	770000	-0-	2,462,835		-	3,199,440
NOVEMBER YEAR TO DATE	103,704	0.0879	182,250 3,608,795	92,322 1,232,779	0.0274	750,649		2,312,391	736,605	()	19, 294,311			32,513,682
TEAR TO DATE	1533,047	0.1177	3,608,793	1,232,113	0.0304	2100,000	-10 10,036	2,312,391	10,124,555	3,094,010	15, 25 7,311	1222200	+	32,513,602
DECEMBER	134,250	0.1030	276,536	105,997	0.0289	. 61,178	438,748	€ 89,508	768,503	1 -0-	L831,787	1,831,787	1	2,600,290
YEAR TO DATE	1,667,297		3,885,331	1,338,776		811,826		2,401,899	10,893,056	3.094,818	21,126,098		T T	35,113,972
1211 10 0016	1,661,231	1 0.1100	0,000,001	1,000,110			1 - 1 - 9 1	1.557,907 711	.0,000,000	5.485.084				
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JANUARY	162,623	007046				93,305	351,742	/^143,037	790,675	135,246	1,150,997	7 1,286,243	T	2,076,9
FEBRUARY	249,125	0.0786	391,961	148,549	0.0356	105,767	. 161,597	387,099 ^{ئۇر}	946,368	480,940	1,424,409	9 1,905,349		2,851,71
YEAR TO DATE		. 0.0754	621,123	281,822	0,0353	199,072	513,339	. 530,136	1,737,043	616,186	2,575,406	6 3,191,592	11-	4,928,6
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MARCH		0.2300	1,292,750		0.0297	5,953	138,836		-823,351		, - I,839,384			2,668,7
YEAR TO DATE	692,845	0.1381	1,913,873	291,819	0.0351	205,025	652,175	929,554	2,566,394	616,186	4,414,790	5,030,976	 - 	.7,597,3
APRIL	244,529	0 0840	410,608	167,232	0.0327	109,207	32,647	¹ 917,903	1,362,311	90,938		2,443,759		3,806,0
YEAR TO DATE		0,1240	2,321,181		0.0342	314,232	€84,822	1,847,457		707,124	6,767,611	7,474,735	·II'	11,403,4
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MAY	24,219	0.0578		36,501		21,757	271,168	.70 55,739		231,150	440,330		# '	1,059,1
YEAR TO DATE	7961,594	0.1223	2,352,474			335,989	955,990	1,903,196	4,316,332	938,274	7,207,941	8,146,215	41	12,462,
	ſ′			'		<u> </u>	Ĺ′	<u> </u>	1 . 9	-	1	<u> </u>		1 1
JUNE	24,932	0,0700	 	107,870	1	61,518	757,722		1,206,666	656,351	1,315,053	1,971,404		3,178,0
YEAR TO DATE	986,526	0.210	2,387,566	603,422	0.0329	397,507	1,713,712	2,219,338	5,522,998	1,594,625	8,522,994	10,117, 619	11 —	15, 640,
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JULY	46,989							-0-	1,057,385	764,747			#	3,023, 18,664,2
YEAR TO DATE	-1,033,515	0.1220	2,521,192	742,459	0.0320	475,455	2,585,071	2,219,338	6,580,383	2,359,372	9,724,499	12,083,871	##	18,007,
	 '	1 2000	1 122.004	 '	1-2277	1 20.55	3 • 856,998	-0-	1 227 681	599,102	1,675,902	2,275,004	#	3,358,6
AUGUST	60,546	-1	1		0.0273	90,663	1		7,664,064	2,958,474			#	22,022,9
YEAR TO DATE	1,094,061	0.1207	7 2,641,200	908,596	0.0312	260,110	3,442,003	5,219,000	4664,064	4330,411	11,400,40.	14,000,010	H	1
· SEPTEMBER	129,914	0,1202	335,704	22 507	0.0291	57,959	722,243	0	951,664	136,344	2,521,201	2.657,545	11	3,609,2
			2,976,904			624,077		2219,338	1	3.094,818				25, 632,
YEAR TO DATE	1,223,975	1 0.1210	5,310,301	1,000,100	0.00.0	4	7,10.1,312	2210,000	8,010, 120	1 3,00 1,01	15,56,55	115,1355		T
OCTOBER	205,368	0.1095	5 449,641	132,354	0.0287	75,980	434,498	-0-	772,220	-0-	2,909,874			3,682,0
YEAR TO DATE	1,429,343		3,426,545			700,057	4,598,810	2,219,338		3,094,818	16,831, 476	19,926,294		29, 314, 2
										1 I	3.54		#	1
NOVEMBER	- 103,704	0.0879	9 182,250						736,605	-0-	2,462,835		11 12	3,199,4
YEAR TO DATE	1533,047		3,608,795				5,046,336			3,094,818		1 22,389,129	11-	32,513,
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DECEMBER	134,250	0.1030				- -		89,508		0	1,831,787		11 11	2,600,
YEAR TO DATE	1,667,297	0.1165	3,885,331	1,338,776	0.0303	811,826	5,485,084		1 1		21,126,098		#	35,113,5
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